

Status of claims as of September 30, 2004

1. (canceled)
2. (currently amended) The ramp-rack of claim -+18, wherein the body has a second end segment with, for contacting the ground surface, the a surface of the second end running at an angle to the plane of said working surface in vicinity of the second end.
3. (currently amended) The ramp-rack of claim +18, wherein the first end has a segment with a surface running at an angle of greater than 180 degrees to the adjacent portion of the working surface.
4. (currently amended) The ramp-rack of claim +18, further comprising means for temporarily attaching the first end to the edge of the bed, when the ramp-rack is used in said first mode.
5. (currently amended) The ramp-rack of claim -+18, further comprising means, located along the length of the body, for enabling the ramp-rack to fold upon itself.
6. (canceled)
7. (canceled)
8. (canceled)
9. (canceled)
10. (canceled)
11. The ramp-rack of claim +18 wherein the whole working surface is planar and generally continuous.
12. The ramp-rack of claim +18 wherein the working surface is comprised of spaced apart beams.

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13. (canceled)

14 (canceled)

15. The ramp-rack of claim +18 further comprising two curbs, projecting upward from the working surface, one each running lengthwise along each opposing edge of the ramp-rack, for inhibiting a wheeled object moving along the ramp-rack in the first mode from running off the edge thereof.~~of the ramp~~.

16. (canceled)

17. (canceled)

18. (new) A ramp-rack article, for use in combination with the bed of a transport vehicle, in a first mode as a downward sloping ramp to the ground on which the vehicle rests, and in second mode as a rack for containing cargo resting on the bed, wherein said bed has pockets along an edge for receiving two or more spaced apart stakes, which comprises:

a lengthwise extending article body having a first end shaped to engage an edge of said vehicle bed, a second end for contacting said ground, a working surface for supporting objects moving to or from the first to the second end, when the ramp-rack article is used in the first mode as a ramp; and,

at least two spaced apart stakes projecting transversely from one edge of the body, so the ramp-rack may be held vertically in place along the edge of said vehicle bed, when the ramp-rack article is used in the second mode as a rack;

the body having at least two spaced apart pockets, located along the side of the body which is opposite the side from which the stakes project, for receiving a stakes of a second like ramp rack article when the ramp-rack is used in said second mode.

19. (new) A ramp-rack article, for use in combination with the bed of a transport vehicle, in a first mode as a downward sloping ramp to the ground on which the vehicle rests, and in second mode as a rack for containing cargo resting on the bed, wherein said bed has pockets along an edge for receiving two or more spaced apart stakes, which comprises:

a lengthwise extending article body having a first end shaped to engage an edge of said vehicle bed, a second end for contacting said ground, and a working surface for supporting objects moving to or from the first to the second end, when the ramp-rack article is used in the first mode as a ramp; and,

at least two spaced apart stakes projecting transversely from said at least one edge of the body, so the ramp-rack may be held vertically in place along the edge of said bed, when the ramp-rack article is used in the second mode as a rack; wherein the end of at least one of said stakes is tapered and surfaced with a resilient material, for contacting the interior of a pocket in wedging fashion.

20. (new) The ramp-rack of claim 19, wherein the working surface of the body is an essentially planar surface; further comprising: an end segment of the body running at an angle to the adjacent portion of the working surface, for contacting the ground or resting on said edge; means for temporarily attaching the first end to the edge of the bed, when the ramp-rack is used in said first mode; and means, located along the length of the body, for enabling the ramp-rack to fold upon itself.